

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO JCS WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3187
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 00739

PERSONAL FOR GENERAL BROWN FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, OTRA, SP, US
SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF SPANISH OFFICERS TO THE U.S.

REF: 77 MADRID 10157 (DTG 161828Z DEC 77)

1. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE VISIT PROPOSED BY YOU TO GENERAL GALARZA, CHIEF JUSMG-MAAG GENERAL NASH MET, AT MY REQUEST, WITH GENERAL GALARZA ON JANUARY 12.

2. GALARZA REPORTED THAT HE HAD CLEARANCES FROM SPANISH DEFENSE MINISTER GUTIERREZ-MELLADO FOR A VISIT BY 12 OFFICERS AND WAS ALREADY IN THE FINAL PHASE OF THE SELECTION PROCESS. GALARZA HAD WANTED TO SEND 20 OFFICERS, AS YOU SUGGESTED, BUT THE MINISTER HAD LIMITED THE NUMBER TO 12 ON THE GROUNDS OF COST. GALARZA SAID THAT, IF WE COULD PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE VISIT, HE WOULD BE PLEASED TO REOPEN THE ISSUE WITH THE MINISTER.

3. GENERAL NASH ALSO USED THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW WITH
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GALARZA OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT AND TO GIVE HIM SOME PRELIMINARY IDEA OF THE SCOPE OF THE WASHINGTON PORTION OF THE VISIT, DRAWING ON THE THOUGHTS CONTAINED IN THE REFERENCED TELEGRAM. GENERAL NASH TELLS ME THAT IT SEEMED GALARZA HAD NOT HAD A FULL APPRECIATION OF PRESIDENT SUAREZ'S OBJECTIVES IN THIS MATTER, BUT THAT HIS REACTION WAS VERY POSITIVE. HE ASSURED GENERAL

NASH THAT THE OFFICERS WERE BEING CAREFULLY SELECTED AND WOULD BE ONES WITH STRONG CAREER POTENTIAL. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THIS INVITATION AND UNDERTOOK TO DO ALL HE CAN TO MAKE THE PROJECT A SUCCESS. HE INTENDS TO ANSWER YOUR LETTER OF INVITATION ONCE IT IS CLEAR HOW MANY OFFICERS CAN MAKE THE TRIP.

4. IN THIS RESPECT, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO FILL THE ENTIRE QUOTE OF 20. THIS WILL OF COURSE DEPEND ON HOW MUCH OF THE TRIP WE CAN FINANCE. COULD YOU LET ME KNOW SOON THE EXTENT OF OUR POSSIBILITIES, FOR EXAMPLE, WHETHER WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO OFFER TO PICK UP EXPENSES FROM THE POINT OF ARRIVAL IN THE U.S.

5. WARM REGARDS. STABLER

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